SPIRITUAL FRONTIERS FELLOWSHIP

Newsletter

October 1970

Vol. 4 No. 8

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Shortly after I expressed interest in coming full-time with SFF, a Council member said, "I hope you can encourage our study groups to use the new lessons and Psychograms written by Dr. Marcus Bach. If members would use these new materials for study and discussion, not only will our ability to communicate with each other grow, but we will also grow closer together in spirit."

Lesson #1 was included with the Sept. Newsletter. Psychogram #1 was mailed in May and Psychogram #2 is in the Oct. mail. A lesson or Psychogram will be mailed every month to provide a study series and a common foundation for study groups and members.

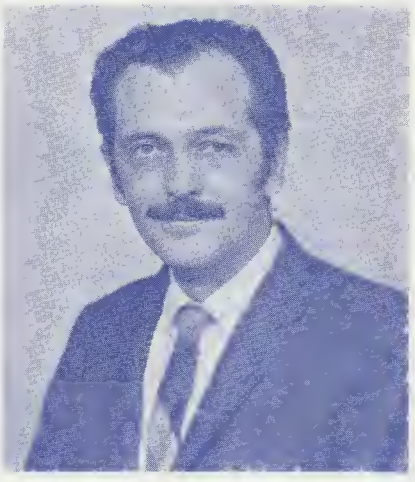
The thrill in a prayer-healing group to a report of positive results is exhilerating and stimulates a personal knowingness of "the Father and I." Learning to relate impressions and psychic awareness to our every day spiritual life should also be a part of our "experience." In recent months I have grown enough to seek and obtain approval from my own Church Council to begin a prayer-healing group (an answered prayer).

"Why doesn't someone else start a group that I can join?" If you need help, pray for it, seek it, expect God to meet your need. In our determination to be Sons of Light, we should have more initiative than the sons of the world, Luke 16:8.

Our contributions program will also help bring more learning opportunities closer to home. Let's pray together and expect it.

Yours in fellowship,
Bob Ericsson

NEW EDITOR APPOINTED



William R. Akins, of New York City, formerly Administrative Secretary of the Parapsychology Foundation, Editor of the International Journal of Parapsychology, Managing Editor of Garrett Publications, and Managing Editor of Inner Space, a magazine of the psychic and the occult, has been appointed Editor of Spiritual Frontiers Journal.

He has traveled through England and France to various Societies for Psychical Research, arranging and supervising conferences for the Parapsychology Foundation. He served for two years as the Research Consultant for the Parapsychology Research Society, where he conducted numerous investigations of spontaneous phenomena and participated in the Society's experiments. He has worked editorially for Henry Holt, Bobbs-Merrill and Grove Press, and his writings have appeared in Southern Review, New York Review, and other magazines. A native of Virginia, he was a teaching Fellow at Brooklyn College, New York. (continued next page)

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NEW LIBRARY CATALOG

The largest lending library catalog of psychic books and tape recordings, containing over 300 new additions, has been mailed to SFF members. The new and very attractive 39-page booklet brings SFF headquarters directly into the hands of the members. The lending library is free.

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SFF keeps up with the space age - thanks to Richard C. Warrick of Bloomington, Ill., who is microfilming selected books for the library. Only a 35 mm viewer will be required to read from the microfilm.

SPECIAL GIFTS

A contribution program "big enough" to support the expanded SFF program and obtain needed equipment and services is underway, reports Bill Holes, SFF Vice-President and Chairman of the Finance Committee. A special gift request was mailed with the Library Catalog.

Now is the time to decide how much spiritual growth you want in your life. The thrust of the campaign ends at Thanksgiving. Send in your Special Gift soon.

New contacts are needed to match the contributions of members. Committee members are: William W. Holes, Chairman; Curtis G. Fuller; Bud Hayes; Paul L. Higgins; David J. Jones; Merle Randle.

PSYCHOGRAM ACCLAIMED

"I am impelled to commend the excellence of Psychogram No. 1. In choice and presentation of material, in judgement and in emphasis, it is not improvable. SFF is fortunate to have Dr. Marcus Bach back in harness."

-Laurence T. Heron, former Editor, Gate Way

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Psychograms and Unicellular Letters are available at 15¢ each for handout in churches and meetings (until supply is exhausted).

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New Editor - continued: Martin Ebon, originator of the present excellent Journal style, will continue as advisor and contributor after the Fall issue. The Publications Committee met on Sept. 30 and is preparing a report of future plans and new opportunities, according to Rev. William V. Rauscher, Chairman.

MARY SHARP RESIGNS

Mrs. Mary Sharp, Chairman of the Research Committee resigned effective August 31. During four years of dedicated leadership, five sub-committees were organized; a meeting of scientists was held; a questionnaire for all new members has made possible a research repository; tapes of readings with Rev. Arthur Ford and of others have been copied and collected. Questionnaires on spiritual healing have identified active healers. Information sheets have been mailed, and are available, for reporting specific instances of spiritual healing and to locate doctors or hospital records for verification.

Mary Sharp has served SFF well. She has answered hundreds of letters and devoted all of her time to developing the work of the committee. With goals defined and implementation by the Research Committee in progress, Mary deserves some free time for herself and a sincere "Thank you" from us all.

SFF IN THE NEWS

In Miami, a 30-minute TV program, "Strange As It May Seem," on WTVS interviewed SFF members and broadcast scenes at: Christ Congregational Church where Rev. T. N. Tiemeyer answered such questions as "Why does a clergyman explore the psychic?" "What is the value of such research?" "What psychic phenomena have I witnessed?" "How do I interpret them?"; A healing service at Robertson Memorial Church, Rev. Harlan Musser; a prayer-study group at Bud and Pat Hayes' home; and an interview with Rev. Arthur Ford.

Rev. Alex Holmes, Caro, Michigan, was also interviewed on TV for SFF in Montreal, Canada on "Healing in the Church," and in Dayton, O. with Rev. Edward A. Puff, Oct. 2-3.

Pastoral Psychology magazine recently devoted two large paragraphs to SFF Purposes and Principles and reprinted Dr. Bengt Hoffman's article, "Intellectualism Is Not Enough."

WELCOME RECOGNITION

The Parapsychological Association has been recognized through affiliation with the prestigious American Association for the Advancement of Science which includes 300 affiliated societies in the fields of science, medicine and engineering.

NEWS NOTES

● Southern California Area Retreat was well attended. For group participation call Rev. Howard Carey, Inglewood or Mrs. Lucile Butterfield, 4235 Loma Riviera Lane, San Diego.

● Members near San Francisco may write Amos J. Bontrager, 530 Brighton Avenue, Modesto, about study groups.

● Denver Area - Oct. 22, Wayne Overholser reports on the "Austria Conference on Metaphysics." For groups, write M. F. Young, 614 S. Xenon Court, Denver.

● Boulder, Colo. - Oct. 23-25 Ambrose and Olga Worrall Seminar "The Ministry of Healing," First Methodist Church, 1401 Spruce.

● Omaha Area SFF Fellowship Week Oct. 13-15. Speakers include Dr. John George, M.D., "Physiological Aspects of Meditation," and Dr. John Nye, sociologist, "The Charismatic Movement-Speaking in Tongues," and others. For groups call 333-6335.

● St. Louis Area - write Ferd Gast, 7 Old Westbury Lane, St. Louis, for groups.

● Chicago Area - Oct. 15, Panel of Psychics tell "How We Started and What It's All About," questions answered, 8 p.m., Chicago Temple.

● Joliet, Ill. Area - Oct. 9, Robert Ericsson, Executive Director; Nov. 21, Irene Hughes, Psychic; Rev. L. Richard Batzler, Chairman SFF Committee on Colleges and Seminaries; Rev. James O'Brien, Prof. Philosophy, DePaul University.

● Detroit Area meets at St. David's Episcopal Church in Garden City each second Monday. Phone 425-9928 for group information.

● Canton, Ohio - Congratulations new Area Chairman, Ernest Fryer. Write E. W. Dykes, 3524 - 22nd NW, for group information.

● Harrisburg, Pa. - Healing Service and Workshop with Rev. Alex Holmes, Oct. 12-13.

● Philadelphia-South Jersey - Oct. 6, Dr. Marcus Bach, "Psychic Phenomena and Life After Death," group leaders meet at 5 p.m.; on Oct. 20, Sebastian Temple, composer; Arch Street United Methodist Church, call (215) LO 8-6250.

NEWS NOTES

● Washington, D. C. - Congratulations new Area Chairman, Rev. George Emerson Stone. Phone 256-6655 for group information.

● New York City Area meets Monday evenings at Lexington Avenue Methodist Church. Members Only Program: Oct. 30-Nov. 1, "Fall Retreat on Psychic Development"; Nov. 7, "God's Healing Miracles" by Kathryn Kuhlman. Write R. de Simone, 25 W. 68th St., New York City 10023 for group membership.

● Members near Durham, N. H. may phone Kenneth A. Taylor, 659-3256, about a study group on healing and communication.

● Members near Wilmington, Del. may write Mrs. W. W. Berryhill, 2610 Grendon Drive, Heritage Park about a monthly study group.

IN MEMORIUM

● SFF charter member and founder, Mrs. O. E. Kuhn of Chicago, passed on to spirit Aug. 18 leaving a daughter, Florence. Her dreams are ours to fulfill. We bless her.

● An obituary of the great teacher, Frank C. Laubach, reported: He believed in a spiritual world. It was his practice to pray a moment at the start of his lectures so that he, Frank Laubach, could step aside and let God use his lips and voice to formulate and deliver His message. This is the highest order of "spirit possession."

So intense were his lectures and prayers that many times right before the startled eyes of his listeners he would be transfigured and whole audiences would see not the face of Frank Laubach but the face of Christ. "Little Pentecosts" he fondly and reverently called these occurrences. When asked about the possibility of Christ appearing to someone he quietly replied, "I have seen Him a number of times and I know several others who have too."

His philosophy and way of life were well nigh in balance between love of neighbor and love of God.

● Remembrance Day - two minutes of silence on Sunday, Nov. 8, 11:00 a.m. for "Universal World Harmony." Create on this day a Dynamic Power of Love - and Peace.

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THE LONDON SEMINAR

"A Vital Present Working of the Holy Spirit"

Fifty-three persons between the ages of 17 and 70 left New York on July 20 for nine days on the first Spiritual Frontiers London Seminar led by Rev. Paul L. Higgins, co-founder and first president of SFF, and Mrs. Higgins. The group traveled from Edinburgh to London, visiting such landmarks of our spiritual heritage as the Holy Island of Lindisfarne, York Minster, the Old Rectory of the Wesley Family in Epworth, Glastonbury Abbey and Chalice Well, Wells Cathedral, and Stonehenge.

The Seminar sessions were held on five mornings in the Kensington Close Hotel, London. Representatives of the Churches' Fellowship for Psychical and Spiritual Studies joined the SFF contingency for a well-designed program. SFF leaders present were President Ross Sweeny, Vice-President William Holes, Council Member Paul Wilkinson, and Olga and Ambrose Worrall. Lectures were given by Col. Reginald M. Lester, founder of the Churches' Fellowship in Great Britain; Mr. Harry Edwards, famous healer; Chancellor Garth-Moore of Cambridge University; Mrs. Ena Twigg, noted medium; Mr. Paul Beard, President of the College of Psychic Studies; Miss Ursula Roberts, writer and psychic; Dr. Martin Israel, senior lecturer in the Royal College of Surgeons; Canon John Pearce-Higgins of Southwark Cathedral; Mr. Percy E. Corbett, executive secretary of the Churches' Fellowship; and the Rev. Dr. Kenneth G. Cuming, physician and clergyman. Lively discussions and question periods followed.

One evening Col. and Mrs. Lester conducted an inspiring Healing-Meditation Service in one of the London Churches. A plaque of recognition to Col. Lester, founder of the Churches' Fellowship and a rare and beautiful 1840 Staffordshire work of "Wesley preaching in the countryside" to Rev. and Mrs. Higgins were presented.

There were many seances, sightseeing, meditation periods, new friendships, and one romance that is budding into a marriage. It was a happy and fruitful seminar. As Mr. Corbett, of London, said, "This is more than an historic event, it is a vital present working of the Holy Spirit." President Sweeny invited the British hosts to return the occasion and visit our Area Groups.

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